Message Text

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R 160845Z AUG 78 FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3659 INFO USMISSION USBERLIN AMEMBASSY BERLIN AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT AMCONSUL HAMBURG AMCONSUL MUNICH AMCONSUL STUTTGART USAREUR HEIDELBERG USAFE RAMSTEIN USCINCEUR STUTTGART

UNCLAS DUSSELDORF 1311

MILITARY ADDRESSEES FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINR PINS PINT MILI GW GE

SUBJ: LUTZE ESPIONAGE TRIAL RESUMED- PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

REF: A-123

1. AFTER A SUMMER RECESS OF 30 DAYS, THE LUTZE ESPIONAGE TRIAL WAS RESUMED ON AUGUST 9, 1978 WITH THE PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE BY EXPERT WITNESSES CALLED BY THE PROSECUTION. THEY TESTIFIED THAT THE EQUIPMENT AND THE METHODS APPLIED BY THE LUTZES WAS REMINISCENT OF THE TECHNIQUES USED IN THE GUILLAUME CASE. MOST OF THE EQUIPMENT, MINOX CAMERAS, EXPOSED FILMS, CACHES IN UNCLASSIFIED

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BAGS, BRIEF CASES AND SPRAY CANS, WAS FOUND IN THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROFESSIONALS FRANK AND CHRISTINE GERSTNER. IN ADDITION GERSTNER HAD A "MIKRATKAMERA" FOR MICRO PHOTOS, A TYPICAL GDR PRODUCT IN WHICH THE CAMERA COULD BE TURNED INTO A MICROSCOPE BY MEANS OF AN OPTICAL DEVICE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO A BND (BUNDESNACHRICHTENDIENST) EXPERT, THE DEVICE NEVER FUNCTIONED. GERSTNER HAD HIDDEN

DOZENS OF MINOX FILM CASSETTES, INDICATING THAT THE LUTZES MUST HAVE BEEN BUSY AS BEAVERS GETTING MATERIAL OUT OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.

2. THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE PRESENTED SO FAR STRONGLY INCRIMINATES DEFENDANTS. JUERGEN WIEGEL IS CONFESSING, WHILE DEPLORING HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE AFFAIR. AFTER A LENGTHY SILENCE RENATE LUTZE IS AGAIN PLEADING HER INNOCENCE AND IGNORANCE WHILE HUSBAND LOTHAR KEEPS SILENT. THE GERSTNERS WILL NOT TALK AT ALL. COURT SESSIONS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED UNTIL THE END OF SEPTEMBER. DUX

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